REMARKS

In the final Office Action mailed April 18, 2007[1], the Examiner objected to claim 24 and rejected claims 1-2, 11-12, and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0015840 to Walker ("*Walker*").

By this amendment, Applicants propose to amend claims 23 and 24. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, and 21-25 will be pending and under current examination. Based on the amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections presented in the Office Action.

I.   The Objection to Claim 24

The Examiner objected to claim 24 as appearing to be redundant with respect to limitations recited in claim 23, from which claim 24 depended. (Office Action at p. 2). Applicants have amended claim 24 to correct the informality, and respectfully request objection be withdrawn.

II.   The Rejection of Claims 1-4, 11-14, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

To properly anticipate Applicants' claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), each and every element of the claim in issue must be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in a single prior art reference. Further, " [t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the...claim." See

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[1] The Office Action may contain statements characterizing the related art, case law, and claims. Regardless of whether any such statements are specifically identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statements in the Office Action.

M.P.E.P. § 2131 (8th Ed., Aug. 2001), quoting *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868

F.2d 1126, 1236, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Finally, "[t]he elements

must be arranged as required by the claim." M.P.E.P. § 2131 (8th Ed. 2001), p.

2100-69. Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1-2, 11-12, and 21-25 under

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites, for example, a method for validating programs, comprising

"receiving a meta-language description of a computer program, the meta-language

description comprising a definition module and an implementation module, the

implementation module defining a first class to be implemented by the program and the

definition module defining a first interface associated with the class." *Walker* fails to

teach or suggest at least the claimed "receiving a meta-language description of a

computer program, the meta-language description comprising a definition module and

an implementation module, the implementation module defining a first class to be

implemented by the program and the definition module defining a first interface

associated with the class."

Walker discloses a method for converting between instances of JAVA class

objects and XML representations. ¶ 4. This allows developers to convert between

JAVA and XML representations of data while working with classes for the application

domain.

Applicants note that the Examiner cites to a number of portions of *Walker* in the

rejection of claim 1 (Office Action at p. 3). However, none of the cited portions of

Walker disclose "receiving a meta-language description of a computer program, the

meta-language description comprising a definition module and an implementation module, the implementation module defining a first class to be implemented by the program and the definition module defining a first interface associated with the class." For example, the Examiner cites to *Walker*, ¶ 12 to teach receiving a meta-language description of a computer program (Office Action at p. 5). However, as discussed above, *Walker* converts between data representations, and the XML representation relied upon is a description of book store data using XML descriptors, not a description of a program. *Walker*, ¶ 21. The Examiner appears to contend that ¶¶ 21-24 teach an XML representation of a JAVA class BookStore that is compiled with an interface "to obtain the executable of said Java 'book store' application." (Office Action at p. 3). But ¶ 21 clearly states, "Next, the operation of the invention will be shown within the context of converting the book store data set between JAVA and XML descriptors." Thus, Applicants submit that the Examiner's statement is a mischaracterization of *Walker*.

Neither the cited portions of *Walker*, nor any other portion of *Walker*, teaches or suggests a method for validating programs, comprising "receiving a meta-language description of a computer program, the meta-language description comprising a definition module and an implementation module, the implementation module defining a first class to be implemented by the program and the definition module defining a first interface associated with the class." Accordingly, *Walker* cannot anticipate independent claim 1.

Independent claims 11 and 21, although of different scope, recite elements similar to the elements recited by claim 1, and are thus allowable for at least the

reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 11, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Walker.*

Claims 2, 4, and 22-25 depend from claim 1 and claim 12 depends from claim 11. Since *Walker* does not support the rejection of claims 1 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), *Walker* also does not support the rejection of dependent claims 2, 4, 12, and 22-25 for at least the same reasons set forth above in connection with claim 1. Therefore, Applicants request that the rejection of claims 2, 4, 12, and 22-25 be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, and 21-25 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 1, 2, 4, 11, 12, and 21-25 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully point out that the final action by the Examiner presented some new arguments as to the application of the art against Applicants' invention. It is respectfully submitted that the entering of the Amendment would allow the Applicants to reply to the final rejections and place the application in condition for allowance.

Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.
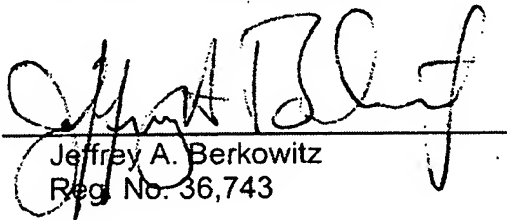
·Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 15, 2008   By: _____
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